

HISTORY OF THE PRESBYTERY OF WINONA.

By

Rev. R. B. Abbott, D.D. (A. D. 1888).

1859.

La Crosse, La Crescent--the Cross first, the Crescent later--opposite to each other--opposed to each other. Early in its history, the Crescent hoped to rival or perhaps supplant the Cross, and keep the mighty stream along its own banks and wharves and busy life;--not having read the book of Foreordination. It was during that era of hope, though hope deferred, that Divine Providence used Malarial Fever, at Spencer Academy, to drive to Minnesota--far-famed, healthful Minnesota--one of the chief actors in the early building up of his kingdom hereaway. Landing at Winona, persuaded by Mr. Lyon to settle permanently for six months in the booming and prospective city of La Crescent--the symbol of Islam--Sheldon Jackson began. He kept on beginning. That has been his life work. Some years later we see him beginning further west. Next he is beginning among the Rocky Mountains. Then he goes to Alaska and keeps on beginning. He will continue beginning to the end of the chapter. And when earth shall cover his clay with other clay, let his epitaph be,--"Here at last rests the Beginner."-- Little of stature but earnest in spirit, like another Zaccheus, he was ever running ahead of the crowd, climbing a hill, scaling a mountain, following a valley, opening a school-house, to see Jesus--who he was, and what he would do for these faraway western people. He was constantly seraching out the land, sowing beside all waters, organizing beside all railroads.--Too much of it, do you say?-- Organized too much? The hunter does not grudge a lost shot now and then, if he yet bags abundance of game. O, for more Jacksons to follow up Jackson, to build up what he began!

If subsequent ministers had had more of his faith and zeal and toil, may be Brownsville, and Minnereska, and Rushford, and Richland, and Austin, and Sheldon, and Plainview, and Utica, and Taopi, and Dresser Valley, and Rollingstone, would never have been dropped from our Roll; and Eyota, and St. Charles, and Waseca, and Janesville, and Fillmore, and Stewartville, would never have been given over to other denominations. May be!

Mr. Jackson found one scattered Presbyterian at La Crescent. It was not long till he organized him--and some others. The church was formed Dec. 28, with six members, the election of officers being held at a later day. Mr. Jackson's salary the first year was three hundred dollars, paid by the Board of Domestic Missions, O. S. His six months settlement, multiplied into sixty months, resulted in a comfortable church building, and a membership of forty-seven souls;--and the whole region for twenty, thirty, forty miles or more, repeatedly traversed, usually on foot, our little circuit-walker often taking no horse--and remember it took more than mille passuum of Sheldon Jackson's to make a mile--every neighborhood sought out, the gospel of Salvation preached with burning fervor in every town and hamlet, every Presbyterian discovered, and a church organized wherever two or three of the faith could be got together in the name of the Lord. Take a specimen brick from the House of his labors: On Sabbath morning he preached in the home church in La Crescent, in the evening at Hokah or Brownsville, Monday he travelled to Houston and preached in the evening, Tuesday evening at Sheldon, Wednesday evening at Rushford, Thursday evening at Caledonia, Friday he returned home, and on that day and Saturday chopped wood to last his wife another week. Then on Sabbath he began to circuit again, varying it from time to time, to carry the word of life to every dark corner.

The recital of such a history recalls the marvels of the heroic age, when men for the love of Christ would undergo any labor, or suffer any persecution, "so they might finish their course with joy, and the ministry which they had received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God." What a new and living commentary it gives to the marching orders of the Christian ministry, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." Mr. Jackson seemed to think it meant just that. But what time could he have for the preparation of sermons? Go and try it once, my young brother; and you will see! He never read that last command in the light of modern revision, "Go into the largest congregations, and preach the grandest sermons you can write!" His head and his heart were full of the gospel, and its glowing truths were cast into orderly form for sermons while on his solitary journeys. His saddle was his study, or oftener his boots! Some of these preaching tours extended as far west as Jackson, and some as far east as Galesburg, Hixton, North Bend, and Black River Falls. At that time, he and the churches he organized were in connection with the Presbytery of Chippewa, which extended a little west of the Mississippi. During those years, and subsequently while at Rochester, he organized or assisted in organizing twenty-two churches; of which the greater part remain to this present, but some are fallen asleep.

Page 17--1864. "The house of worship of the Rochester church and the Manse were begun during this year, completed the following year, and dedicated the first Sabbath of January, 1866. The means to build were secured, in large part, in the east, by Mr. Jackson, who as beggar was almost equal to Jackson as organizer."

Page 18--1866. "The church of Kasson takes its beginning, formed by Jackson the irrepressible, assisted by Elder Newhall, of Ashland. The organization consisted of three members--all women--two elder and one younger. The two elders formed a quorum. This was in May. A month later two others were added to their number, whether men or women is not recorded. What matters it? In heaven they are equal to the angels.

Page 21--1868. "....Jackson the unquenchable, now at Rochester, having figured that Rushford was territorially in the bounds of Southern innesota, came down like another shepherd on the fold--for how should a church be organized here away without Jackson? The church was born in that upper room, and pronounced an infant of Southern Minnesota Presbytery."

Benjamin Harrison,
674 North Delaware St.

Indianapolis, Ind. Dec.4th,1888.

Rev. Sheldon Jackson,D.D.
Sitka,Alaska.

My Dear Sir:-

Your letter of Nov.16th has been received, and I am very much obliged to you for your friendly congratulations. It will give me pleasure to give especial attention to any appointments that I may be called upon to make for Alaska.

Very truly yours,
BENJ HARRISON.

District of Alaska,

CLERK'S OFFICE,

Sitka, _____, 1888

My Dear Mr Jackson,

In my talk last-
evening with you - I did not-
say in so many words that I
thought Mr Sumnerford really meant
to carry out his threats - but I think
he did - I do not wish to draw
you into any matter of this kind -
but you will know as soon as any
one - and I wish you to write us
the state of affairs. - Your letter
will be held as strictly confidential.

And whatever you may have
the opportunity to say in behalf
of my Husband - you cannot say
too much. There never lived - a man
who loved his family - was more indulgent
and generous and careful for them -
There never was a man - who cared more
for his own reputation - and for all the

facts that go to form a manly character.

You must have seen this of him.
And if any word his wife can add
can impress you - you will know
you cannot do too much for him.

I hope we shall hear from you
that all is "quiet on the Potomac"
And remember all our heart and
energy and influence will go toward
helping the Mission.

Very earnestly -
Mary F. Haydon

Mary F. Haydon

WOMAN'S
Home Missionary Society
OF THE
Methodist Episcopal Church.
(ALASKAN BUREAU.)

Boston Dec 5th

1888.

Rev Dr Jackson

Dear Bro.

Yours of Nov 16th came to hand today. I really seems like old times to see your hand writing again. I can't understand why my several letters - asking questions I needed answers to were not received by you. I began to think you had become discouraged that we were not ready a second time. We were ready I had not much patience to spare when after all the trouble I had taken to make you that both these men should say "I have not money enough to pay the expense of passage & getting settled." when they knew from the outset that they were to do this. One thing I wrote you was what I did to reach anyone of these three men. It is not necessary to repeat it, only this I spent 10.21 in telegrams alone to reach Bro Carr. When I did reach him it was too late for him to settle some business on hand and go.

I may add that possibly Bro Baker had some excuse, at least he thinks he had. He says you wrote him you would have his Commission sent to him. He never received it - so supposed the Commission declined to accept him. He was to raise money for a Life Ins. Policy but did not want

to until he knew he was to go. This he did not know until
you ordered him to "forward march" and even then felt a
little timid lest you did not know he had not received
his Comm. but he could not arrange a sum of money in time
he had. He was at Chautauque - had ordered his mails
forwarded which the P.M. declared he did. After his return
to his home among a lot of circulars & papers he found
my letter telling him your orders!!

Now to business. I am not able to understand your reference
to our Mission. You say "Had Methodists if they would
have had a successful mission by this time". Does this mean
anything as to the present?

Also, that these Brethren are not to go until reappointed. Does
this indicate any doubt as to their reappointment?

You close by saying you need any assistance & "Whom
my Bro I have relied upon you entirely - implicitly."

Sometimes when I see what is raised & what continues to
be done & I no positive knowledge of its ever being used
for Alaska I feel like a culprit. Now may I tell me if there
is any reason that you know of that prevents us from
carrying out the long laid plans for us. or that you fear?

Again you speak as if Unga might be preoccupied
By whom? Is there a probability of it? You must not
withhold from me any of the dark, any more than
bright features. I felt not a little hurt that I had from
Miss Fors at Washington, information given ^{by rope} ~~her~~ of a
discouraging nature. You had never told me.

WOMAN'S
Home Missionary Society

OF THE
Methodist Episcopal Church.
(ALASKAN BUREAU.)

1888.

As the Secy of the Bureau it is my duty to know all there is to be known about, not only our own work but of Alaskan interest. I have made this a positive & imperative duty. But you well know I depend upon you for all I can have. When Bro Amos was almost demanded for Chit. I had to decide at once. Not knowing where you were - That mail had to be forwarded indefinitely I wrote Dawson stating precisely the position & asked if there was any definite knowledge as to his going to Unalashka during the season. His answer by telegram was "Mr Amos not needed nor wanted in Alaska" Later wrote to same effect. Also that he had "never been appointed" Of course I could not reply to these statements without implicating you! This I would not do but it was a mystery all the same. From various directions come some statements that Unalashka does not need mission work. The Pres. Ch. does all we could do &c. Now which Dawson meant the same or that he had his own reasons for not wanting a Methodist man there of course I have no way to learn except thru you. I have accepted your assurance that this is the best place for our Home. I must continue to do so until

informed by you to the contrary a positive
proof comes as an unwelcome guest from some other
source. Now please promise me to give me any fears
you may have from failure to establish the Home
there upon a successful basis. Also if we are to be
shut out from Unga.

And here I must say that fear dictates that if
possibly it would be better to return Bro Carr to that
place than any one else to go. He evidently gained
their confidence in full. He certainly is a cautious
prudent man - a fully consecrated man - a man who
can "make money" at home and yet in his very last
letter to me of a week since he says I still hold myself in
readiness if the Lord so directs - to go back to Unga.
In an earlier one he said "I frankly acknowledge
I would rather stay at home." but if he is wanted he will
go. That is my kind of a missionary. "Wherever God
wants I'll go."

In this last letter he enclosed a letter from a man
there saying he wanted the Govt. to understand the
school house they have built is their own not Govt.
Now in this corner the question - which I have asked Bro C.
whose is it. Govt. or individuals?

I would rather have no woman's work there than to lose the
certainty that a Protestant man can have a welcome
there.

Do you see all the newspaper stories of astounding cruelty

WOMAN'S
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(ALASKAN BUREAU.)

1888.

of whites including Govt officer & soldier & native born? Today an article appeared most bitterly accusing Alaska born Co. If I can get more paper I will send you one. I shall be glad to hear immediately as to your belief of the statements. Please also inform me who for let Mrs E B Voorhes of New York is if you know her. She says she visited Sitka & last year will the changes then place you in better or worse position?

Mrs Lenora Teller from Miss Teller has readily accepted a position upon Alaskan Bureau. In what way can she best aid at Washington?

Sept 11th Dawson said "no Appropriation" had been made for Alaska. What can you do? or what are you doing.

We made a strong appeal to our Mission (Paul) to send a family to Unga. Many strong men on the Com, including Sir M C Baker plead for it. A reduction was made in Appropriation for old field. No more could be spent. Please write me fully (if this has better success than most in reaching you), did we send electotype because I did

not know but you had gone where paper
reported you & have gone last year. Will send it now.

Another thing comes to me just this minute that I wrote about
in one of my letters. That for every share those Methodist-
you said where there, would take in for Lee Home, I would take
my pay for in North Stars i.e. they pay you the 50 ct. & I would
dispose of paper (or give it away) & enter names upon list of share-
holders. I run my risk of getting money for paper. If not I pay for them myself.
I suppose I must put some limit to this & so say up to ten. If any are
thus disposed let me know & I'll send names for you to send them
to. ^{& you send me names & enter} I will enclose a dollar bill for the last year & the ensuing to
me.

Yours most sincerely for Christ & humanity
Mrs L. H. Daggett
L. H. B.

Mrs L. H. Daggett
Dec 5-1888.

Alaska
Juneau Dec. 7. 1888

Dr Jackson
Dear Bro

I was on the look out
for you by last steamer
found a letter in the office
that told of your coming
I have some favors to ask
of you and I think you
are about the only person who
^{could} make a straight shot.

The people of Juneau have
got you booked for Governor
you have a great many
friends here. but this one
don't look to see you Governor
but what I would like to see
would be that you step in
at the head of the Bureau of

Education when you have
the machine by the handle.

Have you any books
"Life in Alaska" if you
have a copy. Please bring
it with you when you
come. My last is gone at
what price can I get them?

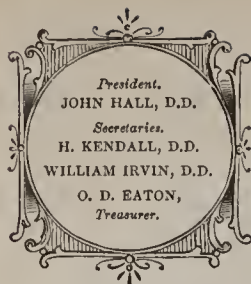
If by any possible
means I should miss
seeing you I want to ask
you to put in a strong
word for G W Garside
for Marshall what
he wants to be and what
I would like to see him is
Surveyor General in order
to be that as you know he has to
be Marshall. I know of no one

now in Alaska or who has
 been here who can fill the
 bill - for us as well as for all
 as well as Garside can

So if I may ask any favors
 for Gov't positions it is that
 you use your influence
 for Garside as U.S. Marshal
 out I hope to see you
 and (D.V.) will, when you
 pass through on the Idaho
 for the East. For there are
 other matters that I wish
 to talk to you about.

Such as A church building
 for whites here in Juneau
 A very important question
 to us, alas. our Home building
 we are in deep water. too deep
 for us. The Board has not

J.W.



The Board of Home Missions

OF

The Presbyterian Church in the United States of America,

[Station D.]

53 Fifth Avenue, New York.

Dictated-

March 6, 1888

Rev. Sheldon Jackson, D.D.

Carlisle, Pa.

Dear Brother Jackson:-

Since you went away we have been canvassing the matter of surveys of our mission property in Alaska and we have come to the conclusion that just now it would not be wise to send anybody to Sitka to survey our lot there. We are afraid that it would make trouble.

Now, if we purchased surveying instruments at a cost of \$18.00 or \$20.00 could not you and Mr. Kelly some morning when the ^{day} due is on and before the people are astir, run the necessary lines from the main buildings out towards the mountains? I think it could be done quietly and without attracting attention. If you put a stone or a post well driven into the ground, leaving ^{it} but a few inches above, ~~at about~~ at about every 40 or 80 rods they, we think, ^{it} will be sufficient to mark our claim.

We are a little afraid about having a surveyor go there. At other places any trouble from the natives is not to be feared. If you approve of this telegraph me and we will take the steps necessary to purchase the instruments at once. We feel that it is very important to keep everything quiet at Sitka; hence the extra cau-

ack
Dec 25th

Metlakchitta Alaska

8 Dec. 1888

Dear Dr. Jackson

Your letter of 1st Nov. ordering
Lumber for Kellersoo Ind. School did not
come to hand in due course - As there
are only able to ship the lumber by 'Idaho'
which we expect in to day. Please find
bill enclosed for the same

Your letters dated ^{5th 15th + 16th} Nov. were to hand
two days ago. The carver is at work
upon the spoons but they will not be finished
to go of the 'Idaho'. I note the action
of the Board of Education, which you apprize
me. I am very sorry you are detained
from your leave of absence - I fear you
will have to travel at a bad time for
crossing the continent. I will not fail
to let you have the copies of the Affidavits
~~that~~ we shall send to W. Strong. They are
not yet finished. We have begun to use our
little P. Press & send you copies of 1st issue

Many are our wishes for you
you are our friends
W. Strong

Ans Jan 14, 89

TRUSTEES.

DAVID M. WESTON, Boston, Mass., *President*.
C. M. BAILEY, Winthrop, Me., *Vice-President*.
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MRS. BETSY MOODY, Northfield, Mass.
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FRANKLIN FAIRBANKS, St. Johnsbury, Vt.

Northfield Seminary,

NORTHFIELD, MASS.

1662. A.

1887

20. 1871

1862

Lebeck

to see her. It will therefore
be necessary that we leave
within the time, but vacation
begins Wed. Dec. 19 and closes
Wed. Jan. 2 and the girls have
their examination at the same
time with course, and their
vacation at the same time.
I supposed that they would
be in West Swanzey during
vacation, but the ladies who have
the care of them think that
other work would be done, by both
themselves & the girls, if the girls
be away on vacation. They are
a great care & I think the
ladies are right, so have planned
for the girls to go to suitable
places. As I shall take home
with me & the others will be in
the same places where they were
during the summer.

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 FRANK WOOD, Boston, Mass.
 JAMES TALCOTT, New York City.
 F. A. PALMER, New York City.
 HIRAM CAMP, New Haven, Conn.
 REV. GEORGE F. PENTECOST, Brooklyn, N.Y.
 IRA D. SANKEY, Brooklyn, N.Y.
 D. W. MCWILLIAMS, Brooklyn, N.Y.
 FRANKLIN FAIRBANKS, St. Johnsbury, Vt.

Northfield Seminary,

NORTHFIELD, MASS.

188

Butler can come next
 week from New York. It is
 of course you would better
 not enter the Sem. week in
 January. After I shall be
 glad to see you. Love you
 all. The girls loved the
 seminar. There that is more
 for the greater part of this year.
 and I am Acting Principal in
 the house.

Yours very sincerely,

Edw. L. Butler.

217.

(Copy)

File 15-

Jan. 11th, 1888.

To the

Honorable, the Secretary of the Interior,

Washington, D.C.

Hon. & Dear Sir:

Last Spring we received a request from your Office through the U. S. Commissioner of Education requesting us to defray a portion of the support of Dr. Sheldon Jackson U. S. General Agent of Education in Alaska.

In accordance with your request our Board gave him a Commission. Now that he is East, he can be of service to us during the winter months and we would respectfully request you to extend his leave of absence until the last of March.

Very truly yours, &c.

Henry Kendall,

Wm. Irvin,

Secretaries.

Rev J. A. Worden ad.
PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION AND SABBATH-SCHOOL WORK,

REV. JAMES A. WORDEN, D. D.,

SUPERINTENDENT OF SABBATH-SCHOOL WORK

Philadelphia,

Dec. 15.

1888

Rev. Sheldon Jackson D.D.

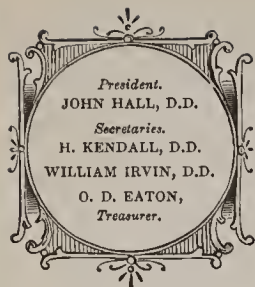
Dear Bro.

Mr. Black, our bus. Supt. has referred to me a part of your letter to him, in reference to Bibles for reciting Catechisms. The offer is made by our "S. S. & Missionary Dept." We as a rule, require the certificate of a recitation by a Scholar, to be sent to us before we send the Bibles. But we will in your case, make this a special one, & will send you 6 Bibles. Mr. Black will enclose the Blank Certificate to you & when that number of Scholars have filled the conditions of the offer, you can send us the Certif. properly filled & signed.

All correspondence relating to Missionary Work of the Board should be addressed to myself.

Yours Truly

J. A. Worden p.s.



The Board of Home Missions

OF

The Presbyterian Church in the United States of America,

[Station D.]

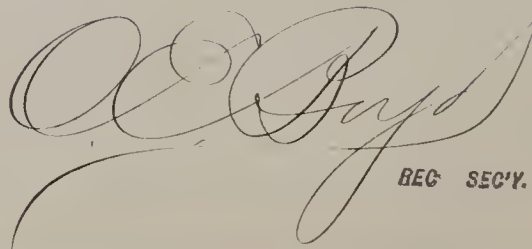
53 Fifth Avenue, New York.

In the matter of the overtures to the General Assembly from two of the Presbyteries in the Indian Territory (Cherokee and Muskogee) "asking the Assembly to take action defining the sphere and functions of a Synodical Missionary, and also his relations to the schools established by the Board, and likewise the relations of the Presbytery and its ministers to these schools and their teachers," and which overtures were referred to the Board of Home Missions by the General Assembly, the following resolutions were adopted.

RESOLVED- That the sphere and functions of the Synodical Missionary was settled by action of the General Assembly, (see Minutes 1883, page 644.)

RESOLVED- That the successful management of the school work of the Board of Home Missions requires its direct control by the Board, and that the relation of ministers is advisory; and that therefore, that whoever is appointed by the Board to superintend such school work shall have entire control subject to this Board.

The above minute was passed by the Board of Home Missions at its meeting held December 18, 1888.



REC SEC'Y.

A Synodical Missionary is
Supt of the School Work.

J.W.

Washington D.C. Jan 18th 1888

Hon W. F. Vilas

Secretary of the Interior

Hon + Dear Sir

The U.S. Commissioner of Education has transmitted to you my request for an extension of my leave of absence together with the Certificates of the Physicians as to the severe & dangerous illness of both my wife & my Mother, & also the request of the Board of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church, who at the request of your predecessor are paying half of my salary, & can thereby reasonably ask for some of my time.

With regard to the request for an extension of leave, allow me to say
1st That it is without pay and therefore no expense to the Government -
2nd That Prof W. A. Kelly, Principal of the Industrial Training School at Sitka Alaska, will attend to the routine

duties of my office, during my absence
without compensation.

Consequently granting such leave
will not be prejudicial to the public
service

3rd That the leave occurs at a
Season of the year in that Climate in
which an Officer is shut up in his
office at Sitka, it being impossible
to get around to other sections of the
Territory.

For these reasons I trust
you will give me permission to re-
main for the present with my sick
ones -

Very Truly Yours

Sheldon Jackson
U. S. General Agent of Education
in Alaska.

71 Bible House, N.Y. Dec.19th,1888.

I hope you can accept the position to which you have been elected by the American Sabbath Union, as shown by Blue mark on enclosed proof, which will also explain our purpose and plan. The officers in New York and vicinity whose names appear on the list, have all accepted. Please indicate by an early mail whether you can do so.

Truly yours,

J. H. KNOWLES,
General Secretary.

Col. Elliott F. Shepard,
President.

The Field Secretary, Rev. Wilbur F. Crafts, joins in urging your acceptance. Your duties will be light, but the help of your name will be real. He hopes to call on you for counsel, in some of his lecture tours.

GEO. W. GARSIDE,

U. S. DEPUTY SURVEYOR,

Juneau City, Alaska.

Juneau City, Alaska,

Dec 20th 1888

Hon. Ringer Neimann
Washington D. C.
Dear friend,

This will introduce to you
Dr. Sheldon Jackson General
Agent of Education for Alaska,
who visits Washington in the
interests of this Territory.

Any favors you may please
to extend will be greatly appreciated

Yours very Truly
John C. Ward

ackd
Jan 8-89
Spoon sent by
this day

OFFICE OF

EARLEY, BROWN & BREWSTER,

DEALERS IN

Logs and Timber Lands,

50 WILLOW STREET,

Williamsport, Pa., Dec 21 1888

Rev Sheldon Jackson

Carlisle Pa

I have a letter from
Rev W. Duncan of Alaska,
saying he had placed in
your hands to be forwarded
to my wife, on your return
home, silver spoons—In his
letter he says he thinks you
will reach home about Dec
first & that we can address
you there—As she has not
heard anything of the spoons she
thought perhaps, there might be
some misunderstanding about
forwarding them, hence this
letter—When you send,
you can do so by Express—
—She wishes to thank you
for the trouble & taking charge
of them Yours &c Jas W Brown

Mellichampe

1 P.M. 24 Dec. 1888

Dear Dr. Jackson

A canoe will leave
here very soon for Tongue
Narrows with the Mail

I am sending you 6 Salmon
tea Spoons & Lt. can of

W Smith - at Tongue Narrows
& shall ask him to hand

them to you if ^{you are} on board

to Idaho or else

this week - or if not -

I ask him to send them

back to me and I will

forward them to Little

of River, Idaho.

I am sorry they were
not finished to go by
last Saturday - but your
letter ordering them had
been detained at Loring
or somewhere else & the
~~from~~ carver had not
sufficient time allowed
him.

Now Mr Dawson has
just sent the carver
an order for 3 day & forms
for the Kansas Trade
Journal.

I have been too busy to
finish the Affidavits to
send to Mr. Strong - &
now I cannot at present
send you a copy.

I am ^{anxious} ~~anxious~~ to see
my way of taking a trip
away to San Francisco
to look out for a Teacher
for our School - I want
married
a Man. - A good Man -
& his wife ~~to~~ would suit
us better than a single
person if we have time.

Actually I do not
see how I can get away
& yet I cannot expect
to engage a person I
have not seen

Wishing you a safe
journey & speedy return

I remain Dear Doctor

Yours sincerely

Wm. Brewster

copied

Steamship "Idaho,"
Decem. 28th 1888.

Dr. Sheldon Jackson

U. S. Educational Agent

District of Alaska.

Dear Sir:- In reply to your request for same,
I cheerfully hand you herewith a catalogue
of suggestions for the improvement of the
Customs Service in the District of Alaska, and
beg leave to ask for them the careful con-
sideration of yourself and others interested.
They are of as conservative a character as
it is possible to make them, and, in my
judgment, are all an absolute necessity.
So far as I have been able to discover, there
has been an absence of system in the
Inspection Service, that should be remedied
at once. And until the Service is reduced
to a system, such as I suggest, it will
never be efficient - The fact that the
District is apparently an isolated one is no
reason for neglecting it.

Although all are important, I would respectfully ask your especial attention to suggestion No. 5. relating to the personal accommodation of Inspectors Afloat. -

The Pacific Coast Steamship Company are very careful to ask each trip of the Inspector a receipt for his transportation ^{and} subsistence, which is to be used by them in collecting from the Government full first class fare for the Inspector's passage. He is viewed by them as a passenger on their ships. -

Yet in the face of those facts he has always been treated unfairly and discriminated against in assigning him his quarters. Although entitled to as good accommodation as other passengers he is invariably assigned below, sometimes to localities where no rest can be obtained, and again where sleep is uncertain and disturbed. Passengers when necessary bear with such loss of rest, because with them it is only temporary - but the Inspector is on the ship three weeks out of every four. -

It is his home and place of business. He is obliged to be up at all hours and for varying periods day ^{and} night - Sometimes twenty four hours at a stretch. Surely under such circumstances he deserves to be as well and as quietly housed as any one else on the ship. In Summer the Company has sold every berth on the ship leaving the Inspector to take care of himself. Last July the writer alternated between an abominable room ^{and} the stowage, in both of which it was impossible to obtain any sleep whatever. - And his present room opens into the dining room, where before his door lunch and conversation occur any ^{hour} of the night - and where conversation and work commences every morning about four o'clock.

Under such a disadvantage for sleep, no Inspector can be expected to be always attentive to his duty. It is both humiliating and discouraging to an officer who deserves to be better protected by the Government -

And I sincerely hope it may be corrected.

I am satisfied that on ^{each} regular ship there is a gang of operators who deal in Contraband whiskey and ^{Opium} in quantities comparatively small it is true, but large enough to be mischievous and dangerous everywhere. There is no principle involved in the traffic: it is ^{simply} and wholly a method of making money, and whiskey in bottles upon ^{every} opportunity is sold to all comers: respectable white men, white soundrels who in turn sell to Indians, and direct to Indians themselves.

There is ~~many~~ an immense Educational work yet to be done among the natives of Alaska, (and you will pardon the ^{State-}ment in a letter to you), and there is no more deadly an enemy to all ^{mis-}sionary and Educational work, no ^{more} certain way of undoing moral and intellectual good and improvement ^{among} these people than this same sale of liquor.

And the Government should sustain the Customs and Judicial Departments in every possible way.

I thank you for this opportunity of placing my humble views before you, and in conclusion beg leave to say that you are at liberty to use my statements for what they are worth, in any manner you deem best.

Respectfully Yours,

L. N. Ketchum,

Inspector,

Steamship "Idaho"

"

Alaska Custom
Matters.

Part of Letter 7 Dec. 28 '88.
to Dr. Sheldon Jackson

Suggestions for the Improvement of
the Customs Service in the
District of Alaska.

1. A steam launch should be located at Fort Tongas for patrol purposes. It should be manned by at least three men, properly armed, and authorized to act as Inspectors.
2. A similar launch should be stationed at Juneau. -
3. The Collector at Sitka and Deputy Collector at Juneau should be authorized to employ a sufficient number of men to search vessels, whenever in their judgment it is necessary to do so. For ships of 600 tons and upward not less than from fifteen to twenty men are necessary for that purpose. -
4. Unless forbidden by law, the U.S. Gunboat, in Sitka harbor most of the time, should be instructed to co-operate with the Collector in that vicinity with both launch ^{and} men. -

5. A comfortable stateroom in a quiet portion of each ship should be reserved for the exclusive use of the Inspector Afloat, where he may go any time day or night for sleep, as it may be necessary. -

6. No freight, baggage or packages should be discharged in Alaska waters, except in the presence of the Inspector.

7. As at present drawn, the manifest will not permit the checking off of the cargo. It should be understood that the Inspector is to have access to the Freight Clerk's list in detail of freight, before reaching each landing place in Alaska. -

8. No liquors to be furnished on board the ship to any person going ashore, either resident or passenger, without the permission of the Inspector in each instance.

- or his baggage
9. No Indian to be allowed to leave the ship in Alaska waters except in the presence of the Inspector.
10. No Indian or Indians to be allowed to board the ship on any pretext, except on business with the proper Officers of the ship or to become a passenger, and then only in the presence of the Inspector.
11. All foreign baggage and other ^{Packages} not actually in use in a passenger's stateroom and not on the manifest, should be placed in an apartment by themselves or in a separate heap.
12. In addition to the Manifests he now receives the Inspector ^{should} be furnished a manifest of the foreign passengers, Cabin and Storage, stating the number of pieces of each kind of baggage possessed by each.

13. An Inspector of Customs, between the months of April^{and} October both inclusive, should reside at Fort Tongas or some point near there, whose duty it should be to take each regular ship and make ~~the~~ the round trip in Alaska waters, cooperating with the regular Inspector Afloat. — Should this suggestion be adopted, and I urge its importance, the watchmen now employed at Sitka, Juneau^{and} Wrangel, so far as the ships of the Pacific Coast Steamship Company are concerned, may be relieved from service during the time mentioned.

Alaska
Customs Service

Ward.
U.S. Clerk of Court

Juneau Dec. 28: 1888

Dr Jackson

Dear Bro

~~Private~~
You met Mr Ward
on the steamer he is looking
for a position under the
Gov. I think clerk of Court.
He is not classed among moral
men. Is well acquainted with
the French woman. & dance houses
Gets drunk some times. I need
say nothing further in this line

A Guest house will
cost about \$300⁰⁰ If you can
get the ground for nothing
I am going to examine into
that part today.

The town held a large

meeting last night
and compelled the parties
applying for patent to give
up their papers & a committee
I may therefore be able to
find the exact house near
the boat House. As I helped
to survey the property I can
easily find the corners and
see what ground there is
if we cant put it then will
have to go further off.

I wish the Government would
establish a Meteorological Sub-
Station here and put me in
charge of it with instruments
for observations.

Fraternally &c
Eugene S. Willard

INDIAN INDUSTRIAL
—AND—
TRAINING SCHOOL,
SITKA, ALASKA,

Sitka Alaska
Dec 28. 1888

Dr. Sheldon Jackson
Dear Sir, -

Mr. Brady read me a letter from Mr. Meyer of Juneau written before you arrived there. In it he says that he understood that you ~~were~~^{are} a candidate for Com. Dawsons place and he hopes you would get it. That he (Meyer) ~~was~~^{is} a candidate for collector of Customs for Alaska and that he would pledge himself to total abstinence and enforcement of the laws &c.

His letter to Brady is lengthy giving him the gossip, political & otherwise from his standpoint. I will post you in these matters each steamer.

Respectfully
W. A. Kelly

12-28-'88